

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OTTAWA 02030 202102Z
ACTION DLOS-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 ACDA-12 AGRE-00 AID-05
CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00
DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-04 SOE-02 DOE-15 FMC-02 TRSE-00
H-02 INR-10 INT-05 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
NSF-02 OES-07 OMB-01 PA-02 PM-05 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-20 /165 W

-----110550 202130Z /66

P 202055Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7121
USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

UNCLAS OTTAWA 02030

GENEVA FOR LOS DELEGATION

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PLOS, CA
SUBJECT: JAMIESON CONCERN OVER SLOW START OF CONFERENCE

1. IN COMMONS QUESTION PERIOD APRIL 19, IN RESPONSE TO
A QUESTION BY CONSERVATIVE MEMBER LLOYD CROUSE AS TO
WHETHER ANY PROGRESS WAS BEING MADE ON THE SUBSTANTIVE
ISSUES BEFORE THE LOS CONFERENCE, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINIS-
TER JAMIESON MADE FOLLOWING REPLY:

2. BEGIN TEXT: MR. SPEAKER, I REGRET VERY MUCH TO TELL
THE HOUSE AND THE HON. MEMBER THAT THE CURRENT SESSION OF
THE LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE HAD PRODUCED VERY LITTLE
UP UNTIL AT LEAST THE PAST FEW DAYS, PRIMARILY BECAUSE OF
A PROCEDURAL DISPUTE BETWEEN THE VARIOUS GROUPS OF THE
MORE THAN 100 COUNTRIES INVOLVED WITH REGARD TO THE MATTER
OF THE ROLE OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL: I BELIEVE THAT THIS
IS HIS OFFICIAL TITLE. IN ANY EVENT, MUCH OF THE TIME
TO DATE HAS BEEN PREOCCUPIED WITH THIS PARTICULAR ISSUE,
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PAGE 02 OTTAWA 02030 202102Z

WITH THE RESULT THAT NOT VERY MUCH BY WAY OF SUBSTANTIVE
DISCUSSION HAS TAKEN PLACE ON ALL OF THE MATTERS TO WHICH
THE HON. MEMBER REFERS.

3. I CAN TELL HIM, HOWEVER, THAT IN INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS
AND INTERCESSIONAL MEETINGS OF VARIOUS GROUPS A NUMBER OF
PROPOSALS ARE SHAPING UP. THEY ARE TENTATIVE AND

THEREFORE I AM STILL HOPEFUL, NOW THAT THE MATTER OF THE
ROLE OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL HAS BEEN CLARIFIED, THAT
THEY CAN MAKE PROGRESS RATHER QUICKLY IN THE WEEKS WHICH
ARE LEFT. HOWEVER, IT IS A MATTER OF RECORD AND, I
REPEAT, OF REGRET THAT UP UNTIL THE PRESENT TIME NOT VERY
MUCH HAS BEEN DONE. AS A RESULT, I AM PERSONALLY WORRIED,
AND THE GOVERNMENT, AND I AM SURE HON. MEMBERS ARE
WORRIED, ABOUT THE FATE OF THE CONFERENCE. END TEXT.
ENDERS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LAW OF THE SEA, MEETINGS, PROGRESS REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978OTTAWA02030
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780169-0993
Format: TEL
From: OTTAWA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780435/aaaabdga.tel
Line Count: 71
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f66079aa-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION DLOS
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2903048
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JAMIESON CONCERN OVER SLOW START OF CONFERENCE
TAGS: PLOS, CA
To: STATE GENEVA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f66079aa-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014